

Wednesday, April 11, 2007 10:41 AM

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative  
c/o California Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Attn: Melissa Miller-Henson

Re: Nomination for North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

Dear Ms. Miller-Henson:

I am writing to express my interest and availability to serve as a member of the Marine Life Protection Act North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group.

Currently, I serve as the Bay Area program manager for National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), overseeing our work to protect and enhance national parks in the Bay Area region from Point Reyes National Seashore down to Golden Gate National Recreation Area. These two parks in particular represent approximately 100 miles of protected coastline, and thus my interest in this process. The Bay Area region's diversity can be seen in the urban cityscapes and rugged, rural landscapes. Along with that comes a variety of organizations and interests, and my work interfaces with interests ranging from business, to social justice, to mainstream environmental.

I am currently engaged in an effort to protect the waters of Drakes Estero in Point Reyes National Seashore from known adverse impacts. The majority of my engagement in resource policy and planning has involved coastal national parks, such as Channel Islands, Point Reyes, Golden Gate, and Redwood. These engagements have significantly involved interaction with the National Park Service, interested stakeholders (business, neighbors, recreation, conservation), NPCA members (more than 6,000 in the Bay Area), and elected officials.

The work and results of the MLPA NCC initiative should involve those people interested in national parks, and I am willing and able to engage those people, from email distribution to in-person meetings.

In addition to my professional ties to the MLPA NCC, my personal interests include recreating, from wildlife viewing to backpacking, in Bay Area coastal national parks. Thank you for initiating this MLPA process and for your consideration.

Neal Desai  
National Parks Conservation Association  
San Francisco, CA